

CLAIMS

1. A hollow building element of plastics material comprising one or more longitudinal ducts and having, at opposite sides thereof, coupling members, whereby elements are connected together directly or indirectly, wherein an upper coupling member at one side of an element is a hook like member and an upper coupling member at the opposite side of the element includes a latch for the hook-like member of another like element.
2. A building element as claimed in claim 1, wherein the upper coupling member that includes a latch is in the form of a longitudinal duct for receiving the reinforcing beam.
3. A building element as claimed in claim 1, wherein latching formations are provided on one or opposite sides of the duct with a corresponding cooperating formation on the hook like coupling member.
4. A building element as claimed in claim 3, wherein the latching member is an upstanding formation at one side of an element over which the hook like coupling member latches with a reinforcing beam between the sides of the adjacent elements.
5. A hollow building element of plastics material comprising one or more longitudinal ducts and having at opposite sides thereof, coupling members,

whereby elements are connected together directly or indirectly, wherein upper and lower coupling members have one or more ducts therethrough.

6. A hollow building element of plastics material comprising one or more longitudinal ducts and having, at opposite sides thereof, coupling members, whereby elements are connected together directly or indirectly, wherein upper coupling members for engagement with a reinforcing beam between adjacent elements include upwardly open channels for drainage purposes.

7. A building element as claimed in claim 6, wherein the upper coupling members have a downwardly extending part to locate in a channel of the reinforcing beam and an upwardly extending part to form a side of a drainage channel.

8. A hollow building element of plastics material comprising one or more longitudinal ducts and having, at opposite sides thereof, coupling members, whereby elements are connected together directly or indirectly, wherein at one side the elements have a pocket for receiving and retaining a reinforcing beam.

9. A building element as claimed in claim 8, wherein outer sides of the pockets include formations to fit complementary formations of adjacent elements. Typically opposite sides of each element will have oppositely orientated L-shaped flanges shaped to fit together.

10. A hollow building element of plastics material comprising one or more longitudinal ducts and having, at opposite sides thereof, coupling members, whereby elements are connected to each other directly or indirectly, wherein upper coupling members at opposite sides of the element are slidably engageable with cooperating formations of a reinforcing beam between the elements.

11. A building element as claimed in claim 10, wherein one of the building element and the reinforcing beam has a T-slot and the other a T-section protrusion that is slidably engageable in the T-slot.

12. A hollow building element of plastics material comprising one or more longitudinal ducts and having, at opposite sides thereof, coupling members, whereby elements are connected to each other directly or indirectly, wherein upper coupling members comprise upstands adapted for location thereon of a capping being formed as a hollow profile member having a plurality of longitudinal ducts.

13. A building structure, such as a roof, comprising two or more hollow building elements connected side by side with a reinforcing beam between the elements, the hollow building elements comprising one or more longitudinal ducts and having, at opposite sides thereof, coupling members, whereby the

---

elements are connected together, wherein an upper coupling member at one side of an element is a hook like member and an upper coupling member at the opposite side of the element includes a latch for the hook like member of another element.

14. A building structure as claimed in claim 13, wherein the upper coupling member that includes a latch is in the form of a longitudinal duct for receiving the reinforcing beam.

15. A building structure as claimed in claim 14, wherein latching formations are provided on one or opposite sides of the duct with a corresponding cooperating formation on the hook like coupling member.

16. A building structure as claimed in claim 15, wherein the latching member is an upstanding formation at one side of a building element over which the hook like coupling member latches with a reinforcing beam between the sides of the adjacent elements.

17. A building structure, such as a roof, comprising two or more hollow building elements connected side by side with a reinforcing beam between the elements, the hollow building elements comprising one or more longitudinal ducts and having, at opposite sides thereof, coupling members whereby

---

elements are coupled together directly or indirectly, the upper and lower coupling members having one or more ducts therethrough.

18. A building structure, such as a roof, comprising two or more hollow building elements connected side by side with a reinforcing beam between the elements, the hollow building elements comprising one or more longitudinal ducts and having, at opposite sides thereof, coupling members whereby elements are connected together directly or indirectly, wherein upper coupling members engaging the reinforcing beam include upwardly open channels for drainage purposes.

19. A building structure as claimed in claim 18, wherein the upper coupling members have a downwardly extending part to form a side of a drainage channel.

20. A building structure, such as a roof, comprising two or more hollow building elements connected side by side with a reinforcing beam between elements, the hollow building elements comprising one or more longitudinal ducts and having, at opposite sides thereof, coupling members whereby elements are connected together directly or indirectly, wherein at one side the elements have a pocket for receiving and retaining the reinforcing beam.

21. A building structure as claimed in claim 20, wherein outer sides of the pockets include formations to fit complementary formations of adjacent elements.

22. A building structure as claimed in claim 21, wherein opposite sides of each element have oppositely oriented L-shaped flanges shaped to fit together.

23. A building structure, such as a roof, comprising two or more hollow building elements connected side by side with a reinforcing beam between the elements, the hollow building elements comprising one or more longitudinal ducts and having, at opposite sides thereof, coupling members, whereby the elements are connected directly or indirectly, wherein upper coupling members at opposite sides of the elements are slidably engaged with cooperating formations of the reinforcing beam.

24. A building structure, such as a roof, comprising two or more hollow building elements connected side by side with a reinforcing beam between the elements, the hollow building elements comprising one or more longitudinal ducts and having, at opposite sides thereof, coupling members, whereby elements are connected to each other directly or indirectly, wherein upper coupling members comprise upstands adapted for location thereon of capping to hold adjacent elements together, the capping being formed as a hollow profile member having a plurality of longitudinal ducts.

---